

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8279

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EALR ET UR

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION VISITING USSR

REF: ADDIS ABABA 8214

1. GENERALLY RELIABLE SOURCE TOLD BY BROTHER OF SENIOR PMAC OFFICER THAT ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION CURRENTLY VISITING USSR INTENDS TO PRESENT SOCIAL-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS TO CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNITY PARTY. PURPOSE OF THIS IS ALLEGEDLY TO DEMONSTRATE PMAC'S COMMITMENT TO SOCIALISM (AND IMPLICITLY, PMAC TRUST IN USSR) AND SECONDLY, TO OBTAIN SOVIET ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND WITH THIS, HOPEFULLY, ASSISTANCE IN CARRYING OUT THESE PLANS. COMMENT: STORY SOUNDS UNUSUAL, BUT SINCE EPMG DELEGATION WAS MADE UP OF FIVE PMAC MEMBERS (INCLUDING TWO "HEAVYWEIGHTS"), THE MOFA PERMSEC, A DEPARTMENT HEAD FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION, HEAD OF THE ECONOMIC DEPT OF MOFA, AND A "POLITBURO" LEADER, IT IS PLAUSIBLE. PRESS HERE HAS REPORTED SEVERAL MEETINGS BETWEEN EPMG DELEGATION AND CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. END COMMENT.

2. RE SOVIET-ETHIOPIAN COOPERATION, GOOD SOURCE TELLS US THAT ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY OF INFORMATION HAS AT LEAST ONE SOVIET ADVISOR (NAME NOT YET KNOWN) ASSISTING MININFO
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PROPAGANDA EFFORTS.

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